

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER 2003

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that the Boland Amateur Radio Club has to announce the passing away of Dan de Vries, ZS1DF, on Saturday 27 September in the age of 82 years.

Dan was a radio amateur for 45 years, served for many years on the committee of the then Boland branch and was President of the SARL from 1980 till 1981. The SARL is grateful for the service he rendered to amateur radio and the league and expresses its deepest condolence to his relatives and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

REPUTED "OLDEST HAM IN THE US" TURNS 103

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SARL MEMBERSHIP EARLY!

INTECNET TO CELEBRATE SPACE WEEK

FIRST DONATIONS RECEIVED TO FUND REJOINING OF THE IARU

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL.

The news follows in detail:

REPUTED "OLDEST HAM IN THE US" TURNS 103

The man believed to be the oldest Amateur Radio operator in the US - Byrl "Tex" Burdick, W5BQU, of El Paso - turned 103 on 25 September. First licensed in the autumn of 1930, Burdick is on the air every day - most recently on 15

meters (look for him on or about 21,314 MHz), and he enjoys ragchewing. On behalf of the League, ARRL President and fellow Texan Jim Haynie, W5JBP, last week wrote to Burdick to extend congratulations and best wishes. Burdick is an ARRL member and a routine QSLer. Happy Birthday, Tex! Also, best wishes from the SARL, Tex, and may you be spared to still enjoy many happy QSO's.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SARL MEMBERSHIP EARLY!

Due to the delay in fixing the subscriptions this year, invoices were only dispatched during July. The 50% level has now been reached. This is on a par with last year, but there is an overall delay of approximately two months. Council is therefore severely limiting expenditure until more members renew, and the funds have been received.

Reminder invoices will shortly be sent out to all members who have not yet renewed. For the first time the SARL will send out reminders via email to all members for whom we already have a valid email address. This will result in a substantial saving to the SARL, estimated at about R2000. Members may still request a printed invoice to be sent by post or fax. Printed invoices will be sent to the remainder within the next two weeks.

Some members have reported that the original invoice posted in July has not been received. Approximately 1% of invoices appear to be lost on a random basis within the postal system, which agrees with business experience. If you have not yet received your invoice please call the SARL office at 011 675 2393 and request a copy to be sent to you.

Your subscription is essential to the continued operation of the League. Please renew early so that we are assured of having the funds available to run the SARL as you would like.

INTECNET TO CELEBRATE SPACE WEEK

Tonight's INTECNET will focus on International space week with guest speaker Prof Garth Milne of the University of Stellenbosch and Sunspace.

This year's space week theme "Horizon beyond Earth" augurs well for amateur radio as we were amongst the first non-governmental group to explore space. When OSCAR 1 was launched in 1961, only 4 years after man's first ever satellite was launched by the Russians, Amateur Radio established a place for itself in space exploration. Today amateur radio is still involved be it in the design and building of satellites or amateur operation from the International Space Station. Amateurs in Germany are now planning to take amateur radio to Mars."

INTECNET will be on the air tonight Sunday 5 October 2003 at 20:00 CAT and will feature a historical look at amateur satellites, relive the excitement of South Africa's first satellite, SUNSAT Oscar 35 and discuss the amateur payload for the next SUNSAT which is in the planning stages. Besides many local repeater networks, there will be a relay on 3 718 kHz.

Clubs wishing to join the network and link their local repeater should send a request to armi@sarl.org.za.

FIRST DONATIONS TO FUND TO REJOIN IARU RECEIVED

The first donations for the South African Amateur Development Trust campaign to fund the SARL's membership of the IARU have been received last week. Some R13 000 will have to be raised.

The Trust has started the ball rolling by making R5 000 available from its current account. The amount to be raised is thus R8 000. Radio Amateurs are urged to make a donation to the fund. In a recent SARL News SARL President Graham Harlett ZS6GJH said that it is in every radio amateur's interest to ensure that South Africa maintains its international relations and sets an example to Africa. "As the largest Amateur Radio Society in Africa and the country with as many Radio Amateurs as the total for the rest of Africa, we cannot stay out of the mainstream of organised amateur radio".

While the trust is targeting Industry to raise funding, it also appeals to all radio amateurs to make a contribution. Please send your donation to SA Amateur Radio Development Trust, P O Box 90438, Garsfontein 0042 or transfer the money directly into the account at ABSA, Account number 560 142 722, Branch code: 334 126.

All donors will receive a certificate acknowledging their donation. A list of donors will be published on the SARL website.

The Trust would like to transfer the required fees to the IARU as soon as possible. In the happy event that more money is raised than the required amount, the surplus will be kept in trust and paid towards the 2004 subscription. Thanks to two KwaZulu-Natal Radio Amateurs who have started the ball rolling. Support Amateur Radio now. Please contribute today.

MAGALIES RADIO AMATEUR CLUB'S AGM AND NEW COMMITTEE.

At the Magalies Radio Amateur Club's AGM held on 27 September, the following members were elected to their new committee: Chairman: Marten du Preez, ZS6ZY; Vice chairman: Pieter Scholtz, ZS6LC; Secretary: Magda van Wyk, ZS6MVW; Treasurer: Nico du Toit, ZR6AFJ; Technical convener: Piet van Wyk, ZS6MVW; Social matters: Naretha Nel, ZR6MNJ; Youth co-ordinator: Lizette van Wyk, ZR6LZT; Marketing: Johan Nel, ZR6JPN; Editor Teenspanning: Pieter Scholtz, ZS6LC; Bulletin co-ordinator: Magda van Wyk, ZS6MVW.

We thank the committee members who have retired for their hard work during the past year and wish the new committee all the best for the new year.

The president of the SARL, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, and his SW Natasha honoured us with their presence. Graham informed the meeting about what has happened in the SARL since the new council took over. They also attended the dinner and we enjoyed their company.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Special INTECNET tonight, Sunday 5 October. RAE to be held on 16 October and invigilators must register! The cut off date for membership renewals is 31 October.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 815, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentechn.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX